PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 01413.0010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5

In re Application of:

Jeffrey D. SAFFER et al.

) Group Art Unit: 1631

-

Serial No.: 09/409,260

Examiner: C. Mahatan

Filed: September 30, 1999

For: Method and Apparatus for

Extracting Attributes From

Sequence Strings and Biopolymer

Material

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Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PETITION TO RESET THE PERIOD FOR REPLY

Pursuant to the procedure set forth in M.P.E.P. § 710.06, Applicants hereby petition to reset the period for reply to the Office Action dated December 14, 2001, which was received at Applicants' correspondence address on February 1, 2002. Applicants submit that this Petition is timely, as it is being filed within two weeks of the date of receipt of the Office Action at the correspondence address. Applicants further submit that the shortened, one month period set for reply has elapsed due to delays in the U.S. Postal Service.

As evidence of the substantial delay, Applicants attach to this Petition a copy of the first page of the Office Action, which bears the date stamp of receipt at Applicants' correspondence address. Applicants submit that this date stamp of receipt establishes

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Jeffrey D. SAFFER et al. Atty. Docket No. 01413-0010

the date of receipt of the Office Action at Applicants' correspondence address, as in the ordinary course of business all mail received at Applicants' correspondence address is handled in this way.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the period for reply to the Office Action dated December 14, 2001, be restarted.

If any fees are required to enter this petition, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 8, 2002

By:_

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